(a) whether it is a fact that Government provide assistance to the N.E. States under externally aided projects with 90 percent grant and 10 percent loan component;

(b) whether it is also a fact that assistance so arranged is treated as additionality to the State Plan; and

(c) the details of such projects sanctioned in the N.E. during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir."

(b) No, Sir.

(e) A lump sum provision is made in' the State's annual Plan funding for Additional Central Assistance (ACA) for externally aided projects. Actual release of ACA depends upon reimbursement claimed and received by the State Government from the external funding agency. Allocations of ACA under State Plans for N.E. States during the last three years are given below:

(Rs. in crores)

State	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—
Assam	80.00	80.00	80.00
Manipur	5.00	5.00	25.00
Meghalaya	—	—	30.00
Mizoram	15.00	—	5.00
Nagaland	15.00	15.00	37.24
Tripura	—	15.00	15.00

RBI Surveillance over Banks and Financial Institutions

221. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to strengthen the Reserve Bank of India's surveillance over banks and other financial institutions in view of the flaws afflicting the financial sector that have been responsible for the economic turmoil in a number of South Asian coutries as well as Japan;

(b) whether some banks, including the State Bank of India, have often tended in recent months to practise measure that have deviated from guidelines laid down by the RBI; and

(c) if so, the measures proposed to be undertaken to prevent the frittering away of the country's foreign exchange reserves because of activities of commercial banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M. R. JANAR-THANAN): (a) As a part of the ongoing attempts at reforming the financial sector, the Reserve Bank of India has been making continuous efforts to improve its surveillance over banks and other financial institutions. A Board for Financial Supervision has also been set up under the Reign of RBI for improved Supervision of Banks and Financial Institutions.

(b) There is no evidence to indicate that some banks have often tended in recent months to practice measures that have deviated from guidelines laid down by the Reserve Bank of India.

(c) Does not arise.